

**RUNCORN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**



# **ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

**For the year ending 31st December 1964**



**RUNCORN RURAL DISTRICT**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**1964**

by **J. L. PATTERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

**Medical Officer of Health, Runcorn Urban and Rural Districts**

## **OFFICIALS OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

**J. L. Patterson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.**

**Medical Officer of Health, Runcorn Urban and Rural Districts.**

**Divisional Medical Officer of Health**

**Divisional School Medical Officer (Runcorn Division)**

### **Public Health Inspectors and Meat and Food Inspectors:**

**D. BOOTHMAN, M.A.P.H.I., Senior Public Health Inspector**

National Certificate in Building

Certified Public Health Inspector (R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.)

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods (R.S.I.)

Certified Smoke Inspector (R.S.H.)

Offices: Public Health Department, Castle Park, Frodsham.

Tel.: Frodsham 2186/7/8/9

District Office, Sandy Lane, Stockton Heath

Tel.: Warrington 61218/9

Residence Tel. No. Frodsham 2219.

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Certified Public Health Inspector (R.S.I. and S.I.E.J.B.)

Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods (R.S.I.)

Certified Smoke Inspector (R.S.H.)

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National Certificate in Building

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### **Pupil Public Health Inspector:**

**A. C. BARKER**

Intermediate examination of Public Health Inspector's Diploma

**Clerical Duties: Miss J. M. LEWIS**

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## **RURAL DISTRICT OF RUNCORN 1964**

### **Chairman of the Council:**

Councillor G. J. FORD, J.P

### **Vice Chairman:**

Councillor J. SEPHTON

### **Health Committee:**

Councillor J. SEPHTON, Chairman

Councillor W. H. STUBBS, Vice Chairman

### **Councillors:**

Councillor	Mrs. J. A. Glover
„	A. L. Bartholomew
„	A. Bromley
„	J. Billington
„	J. G. Dawson
„	H. R. Done
„	H. Helsby
„	C. Holden
„	J. Holt
„	R. Hunnam
„	J. Hunt
„	J. W. Kirkham

Ex-Officio: Chairman and Vice Chairman of the District Council

### **Officers:**

Solicitor/Clerk of the Council:

Mr. R. PATRICK WILLIAMS,

Engineer and Surveyor:

Mr. B. PRESTON, B.Sc., A.M.I.C.E., M.I.Mun.E

Treasurer:

Mr. A. P. Warburton,

THE JOURNAL OF THE

ROYAL ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND

VOLUME LXXV

PART I

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## INTRODUCTION

Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Glover and Gentlemen,  
Rural District Council of Runcorn.

I have the honour to submit the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1964.

Again the community has been free from outbreaks of major infectious disease—the most common infectious disease during the year has been measles.

The Infant Mortality Rate is 19.55% compared with 8.8% in 1963, but of the 14 infant deaths, 13 occurred in the very early days of life, associated with congenital factors. In the present state of medical knowledge, the prevention of these congenital abnormalities is not possible in most instances.

Among the older age groups, there are 30 deaths from bronchitis and 17 deaths from lung cancer. This is part of the price the community pays for its continuing neglect of the ~~changes~~ changes of atmospheric pollution.

In environmental hygiene the report describes the work done to maintain healthy living conditions. By and large these are very satisfactory. The problem of the foul smell from the Manchester Ship Canal is still present and shows no sign of improvement.

My sincere thanks are due to all the members of the Public Health Department staff who have worked well throughout the year. As always the other departments of the Rural Council's staff have been very helpful.

Yours obediently,

J. L. PATTERSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

## SECTION A

### STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

(a) Area (in acres) ... ..	45,552
(b) Estimated population ... ..	41,860
(c) Number of inhabited houses (end 1964 according to the Rate Book) ... ..	14,570
(d) Rateable value of the District, 20/11/64 ... ..	1,446,138
(e) Sum represented by one penny rate (1/4/64) Net ...	£5705
(f) Average number of persons per inhabited house (estimated population) ... ..	2.87
(g) Density of population. Number of persons per acre (estimated population) ... ..	0.92

#### Vital Statistics

Area Comparability factors:

Births	1.00
Deaths	1.03

Population (Mid Year estimated):

		Total	M	F
Live Births	Legitimate	739	395	344
	Illegitimate	28	18	10
		<hr/> 767	<hr/> 413	<hr/> 354

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... .. 18.32

Illegitimate live births per cent. of total live births ... 3.65

		Total	M	F
Still Births	Legitimate	7	4	3
	Illegitimate	2	2	0
		<hr/> 9	<hr/> 6	<hr/> 3

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 live and still births ... 11.60

Total live and still births ... .. 776

Number of Infant Deaths (deaths under one year of age) ... ..

	Total	M	F
Legitimate	13	7	6
Illegitimate	2	2	0
	<hr/> 15	<hr/> 9	<hr/> 6

## Infant Mortality Rates

Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births ... ..	19.55
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 live births ... ..	16.94
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	71.43
Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (Deaths of infants under 4 weeks (14) per 1,000 total live births .. ..)	18.25
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Stillbirths (9) and deaths of infants under 1 week (13) combined) per 1,000 total live and stillbirths ... ..	28.34

## Maternal Mortality (including Abortion)

Number of Deaths ... ..	Nil
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births ... ..	Nil

## Summary of deaths of Infants under One Year of Age

Number of Deaths ... ..	Nil
1 (a) Pulmonary atelectasis ... ..	Female 17 hours
(b) Prematurity ... ..	
1 (a) Congenital Heart Disease ... ..	Male 6 days
1 (a) Prematurity ... ..	Female 12 hours
1 (a) Respiratory failure ... ..	Male 4 days
(b) Prematurity ... ..	
1 (a) Atelectasis of Lung ... ..	Male 1 day
(b) Prematurity ... ..	
1 (a) Prematurity ... ..	Female 12 hours
1 (a) Prematurity ... ..	Female 6 hours
1 (a) Cerebral Anoxia ... ..	
(b) Atelectasis of Lung ... ..	Male 3 hours
(c) Prematurity ... ..	
1 (a) Cerebral Haemorrhage ... ..	Male 3 days
1 (a) Congenital Heart Disease ... ..	Male 15 days
1 (a) Cerebral Anoxia ... ..	Male 7 hours
(b) Prematurity ... ..	
1 (a) Cerebral Anoxia ... ..	Female 3 hours
(b) Prematurity ... ..	
1 (a) Cerebral Anoxia ... ..	Male 18 hours
(b) Atelectasis of Lung ... ..	
(c) Prematurity ... ..	
1 (a) Staphylococcal Pneumonia ... ..	Male 5 months

### Deaths—1964:

Total Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	468
Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population	...	...	...	...	...	11.52
Common Causes of death:—						
Coronary Disease Angina	...	...	...	...	...	119
Hypertension with Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	7
Other Heart Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	46
Total						172
Vascular Lesions of the nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	70
Lung Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	17
Other Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	37
Total						124

### COMPARISON RATES—1954/64

Year	Population	Birth Rate	Death Rate	Infantile Mortality Rate
1954	36,260	13.59	12.58	24.34
1955	36,810	13.36	11.49	14.22
1956	37,080	14.10	11.84	24.85
1957	37,470	15.55	11.10	12.00
1958	37,850	15.61	11.25	21.99
1959	38,140	15.20	11.58	24.09
1960	38,960	17.60	11.65	18.95
1961	39,920	16.66	12.14	12.20
1962	40,670	16.85	12.41	21.27
1963	41,150	19.32	12.30	8.80
1964	41,860	18.32	11.52	19.55



## **SECTION B**

### **GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA**

#### **1. Public Health Officers**

The names and qualifications, districts, addresses and telephone numbers are given at the beginning of the Report.

#### **2. Laboratories**

Facilities are given by:

The Public Health Laboratory, City Hospital, Chester

The Public Health Laboratory, Mount Pleasant, Liverpool

The Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Newton  
Heath, Manchester

The Public Health Laboratories, at Warrington and Chester  
Royal Infirmaries.

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Rural District Council of Runcorn  
Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I again thank the Medical Officer of Health for the opportunity of commenting on the environmental health services of the Public Health Department, Sections C, D and E.

There were no changes in staff during the year, and I should like to express my appreciation of their efficient work during the year.

The table of inspections and visits gives a general pattern of the distribution of the work, also described in the body of the report, but comment follows on particular items.

In Kingsley the house drainage connections to the sewer were almost completed; the slaughter house effluent was also taken into the sewer as a trade effluent, thereby removing a long standing complaint of stream pollution.

Intensive farm husbandry continues to increase, it gives rise to several public health problems, smell, noise, flies and that of disposing of large quantities of manure. Planning control needs to be strengthened so that new projects of this nature are sited well away from existing and projected housing development.

Further progress in dealing with unfit houses awaits the provision of more Council Houses to accommodate the displaced families. By and large all the worst houses have been reported for appropriate action and the problem in the future on the present standards is to secure the demolition of these houses which decay

in the order of 12 to 15 a year, and to enforce improvement on existing houses lacking modern amenities by the Housing Act, 1964. Work is proceeding on this new Act. From our initial experience it appears that property owners will not voluntarily carry out the improvements.

The Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963, came into operation, and the preliminary work of distributing the forms and compiling a register was commenced. It appears this Act will involve a lot of detailed inspection and documentation.

Litter and the dumping of rubbish still increases; a report was made to the Council on measures which might be taken for better clearance for consideration in the next financial year.

D. BOOTHMAN,  
Senior Public Health Inspector.



## SECTION C

### 1. Water

Comment by the Water Engineer and Manager of Warrington Corporation, the Water undertaking for the whole of the district except Halton, which is served by the Runcorn Water Board, is as follows:—

- (i) (a) The water supply in the area has been satisfactory in quality.
- (i) (b) Pressure difficulties have been experienced in Sutton Weaver, Antrobus and Norley. A new main has now been laid at Sutton Weaver and the pressures have been corrected. Mainlaying is in progress at Antrobus and Great Budworth, and a start is expected in January 1965 with mainlaying at Norley.
- (ii) During 1964 the following analyses have been made:—
  - (a) From Sources and Supply Reservoirs—5 Chemical and 186 Bacterial.
  - (b) From random points within the distribution system—3 Chemical and 171 Bacterial.
- (iii) No plumbo solyency was encountered.
- (iv) No instances of contamination were detected in the supply.

Since 15th November, 1964, parts of Thelwall, Grappenhall and Stockton Heath have been supplied from Lymm Pumping Station following new developments incorporating a softening plant

All water supplies are chlorinated.

All analyses are carried out by Messrs. Ruddock and Sherratt of Flag Lane, Warrington.

Private water supplies are bacteriologically examined twice per year. Where as a result of such sampling the supplies have been established as unsatisfactory, notices advising that the water be boiled or chlorinated before drinking, dietetic and dairy purposes are sent and repeated quarterly to the owners and occupiers.

Chemical Analysis				Foxhill	Newton Hollows	Runcorn and District Water Board to Halton	Mid and South East Cheshire Water Board to Budworth Village and Ball Lane, Kingsley	Frodsham	Warrington Water Dept. 10
Date	..	..	..	17.4.64	17.4.64	30.6.64	1.5.64	17.4.64	17.4.64
Appearance..	..	..	..	Slightly yellow/brown	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless	Clear and Colourless
Odour	..	..	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Re-action	..	..	..	7.5	7.05	7.1	7.6	7.7	6.8
Parts per million									
Total Solids	..	..	..	157	299	73	282	294	60
Nitrogen as free and saline ammonia	..	..	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as albuminoid ammonia	..	..	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrites	..	..	..	Nil	Faint	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as nitrates	..	..	..	2.0	9.0	0.5	6.4	2.9	1.1
Chlorides as Cl	..	..	..	29	39	16	23	18	42
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in 4 hours at 27 deg. C.	..	..	..	1-1	0.2	1.2	0.08	2.23	0.26
Total Hardness	..	..	..	56	203	16	143	15	212
Temporary hardness	..	..	..	32	93	10	48	10	190
Permanent hardness	..	..	..	24	110	6	141	5	22
Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	..	..	..	32	93	10	113	10	190
Potassium as K	..	..	..	1.4	8.0	0.4	Nil	0.4	2.5
Free chlorine	..	..	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Poisonous metals	..	..	..	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Manganese as Mn	..	..	..	Less than .025	Less than .025	Less than .025	Less than .025	Less than .025	Less than .025
Free CO <sub>2</sub>	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fluorine	..	..	..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bacteriological Examinations:									
No. of organisms per ml. capable of growth on nutrient agar at 37 deg. C. in 48 hours	..	..	..	1	1	0	0	0	5
No. of organisms per ml. capable of growth on nutrient agar at 20/22 deg. C. in 3 days	..	..	..	18	3	15	0	1	6
Probable No. of coliform organisms per 100 mls.	..	..	..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Probable No. of faecal coli per 100 mls.	..	..	..	0	0	0	0	0	0
Clostridium Welchii 50 mls.	..	..	..	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.	Neg.

Parish	(a) Private Water Mains				(b) Private Supplies			
	Direct to Houses		Standpipes		Private Mains		Wells and Springs	
	Houses	Popu- lation	Houses	Popu- lation	Houses	Popu- lation	Good Quality	
							Houses	Popu- lation
Alvanley	112	342	—	—	—	—	—	—
Antrobus	242	130	1	4	—	—	—	—
Appleton ..	1718	4905	—	—	—	—	—	—
Aston ..	51	180	—	—	23	80	—	—
Budworth Great	125	373	—	—	—	—	—	—
Daresbury	96	304	—	—	—	—	1	4
Dutton ..	100	481	—	—	—	—	—	—
Frodsham	2520	6426	—	—	—	—	1	4
Grappenhall	2734	8184	—	—	—	—	—	—
Halton ..	488	1482	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hatton ..	103	315	—	—	—	—	—	—
Helsby ..	1304	3771	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kingsley ..	425	1392	1	3	—	—	—	—
Manley ..	161	695	—	—	—	—	1	2
Moore ..	223	684	—	—	—	—	—	—
Norley ..	319	859	—	—	—	—	1	4
Norton ..	18	126	—	—	—	—	—	—
Preston Brook	149	426	—	—	25	75	—	—
Stockton Heath	2501	6773	—	—	1	4	—	—
Stretton ..	158	596	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sutton ..	270	755	—	—	—	—	—	—
Walton ..	572	1520	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whitley ..	186	539	2	5	—	—	—	—
Totals	14502	41650	4	12	49	159	3	10
							12	29



## **Drainage and Sewerage**

Kingsley—The work of laying sewers was completed and about 95% of the house connections carried out.

Other matters requiring attention in the future are:—

1. Norley—Sewers and sewage disposal works. Scheme prepared.
2. Helsby—New intercepting sewer and sewage disposal work extensions, or major scheme.
3. Great Budworth—Sewers and Sewage disposal works.
4. Stretton—Sewage disposal improvements.
5. Acton Grange—Works enlargements
6. Moore—Sewage disposal improvements, possible pumping to Acton Grange.
7. Grappenhall—Stockport Road sewers.
8. Appleton-Wrights Green—Discontinuance of small unsatisfactory sewage disposal works and ejection to the sewer in Lyons Lane (approved for 1965). Scheme prepared and land purchased.
9. Antrobus—Sewers and sewage disposal works for small area likely to be developed in Post Office area. 1965 Estimates.

Work continued on the sewer connections in Kingsley, and the effluent from the slaughterhouse was also connected as a trade effluent, conditions and cost having been made by the Council and accepted by the owner.

The Department undertakes the clearing of combined drainage systems which may be technically sewers, where these are not the main sewers dealt with by the Engineer and Surveyor, and where there is reasonable access to the pipes.

Simple drain stoppages are also cleared on request on a cost basis. This service has proved most useful in dealing expeditiously with these problems.

## **Rivers and Streams**

Pollution of ditches and streams remains a problem owing to the erection of new houses, improved sanitary appliances to existing houses and improved milk and dairy technique in parishes without sewers. Private owners are advised on the best type of septic tanks and filters for their property. Where such properties are in groups the only final satisfactory solution is the provision of a sewer and sewage disposal works. Liquor from cowsheds and silage pits presents a particularly difficult problem where it is not collected and returned to the land as manure. With the continued

improvement of farm premises, usually involving more intensive animal husbandry, farmers are faced with the fact that the foul drainage must be dealt with in such a manner as to avoid nuisance and pollution of ditches and watercourses.

Consideration should be given to receiving farm drainage into sewers as a trade effluent.

The two cesspool emptying vehicles are used for desludging septic and settling tanks on Council and private property, and for the collection of nightsoil. The Council give a free service for emptying wholly domestic septic tanks once per year as before, the applicant to have the access covers of the tanks loosened and opened up in readiness. Difficulty is experienced in keeping pace with the demand. The charge for industrial and farm liquor tanks remains at 30/- per hour. All owners of properties having septic tanks have been invited to make use of this service.

Where plans are submitted to the Engineer and Surveyor involving drainage systems not connected to a public sewer, the observations of this department have been sought on the efficiency of the proposed drainage disposal.

The pollution of the Manchester Ship Canal continues, and causes objectionable odours after a prolonged period of warm weather.

The River Board are pressing for improvements in the treatment of trade and sewage effluents which will be a long and expensive matter. Some improvement has been made.

### **Closet Conversions**

42 conversions to the water carriage system were carried out; 25 of these were included in Improvement Grants.

Where this has been done voluntarily by the owners and is not part of an Improvement Grant the Council has, when requested, paid a grant of up to £15 provided that where a public sewer is not available the owners will, at their own expense, consent to a public sewer when it becomes available.

### **Public Cleansing**

This service is carried out by the Engineer and Surveyor under direct labour. Disposal is by tipping and levelling with earthing over at intervals at two main tips.

Owing to the increasing difficulty in finding suitable land for tipping, consideration must be given to alternative methods of disposal.



A mechanical shovel and bulldozer are used to level the tips.

Limiting the area of tip face and sealing with covering material as advised for controlled tipping is not practised, consequently nuisance can arise from insects, rats and dispersal of paper.

The cesspool emptying vehicles are adapted for the collection of the contents of pail closets and this enables the collection and disposal of nightsoil by discharging into sewers to be carried out with the minimum of nuisance.

A more frequent removal of trade refuse, particularly from food premises would improve the general hygiene.

To reduce the increasing amount of rubbish dumped throughout the countryside, consideration might be given to collecting rubbish other than that placed in the household bin and of cleaning up waste areas of land which are untidy by reason of dumped rubbish.

### **Private Tips**

Supervision of these continued, no serious problems arose during the year.

### **Noise Abatement Act, 1960**

In general, noise from existing establishments is accepted, apart from those in new houses built close to the noise source. Alterations in character and timing of the noises also bring complaints. Several have been found to have high level when measured. Managements have been co-operative.

The roaring noise from the ventilator exhausts of a new factory was solved by the provision of a special silencer.



## Summary of Visits and Inspections

						No. of Inspections
Nature of inspections						
Dwelling Houses (Housing Acts) ...	...	...	...	...	...	215
Dwelling Houses (Public Health Acts) ...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Dwelling Houses (Rent Act) ...	...	...	...	...	...	29
Dwelling Houses (Improvement Grants)	...	...	...	...	...	227
Dwelling Houses (Housing Applications)	...	...	...	...	...	101
Schools ...	...	...	...	...	...	15
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Water Supplies (Samples) ...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Other inspections ...	...	...	...	...	...	33
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Sewer Connections ...	...	...	...	...	...	87
Sewers and Drains ...	...	...	...	...	...	564
Colour Tests ...	...	...	...	...	...	79
Ditches and Watercourses ...	...	...	...	...	...	107
Refuse Collection and Disposal ...	...	...	...	...	...	85
Foul accumulations of Refuse ...	...	...	...	...	...	22
Tipping on Waste Land ...	...	...	...	...	...	69
Vermin (Rats and Mice, etc.) ...	...	...	...	...	...	116
Vermin (Insects) ...	...	...	...	...	...	70
Keeping of Animals ...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Animal Boarding Establishment Act ...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dairies and Milk retailers ...	...	...	...	...	...	16
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Ice Cream (Samples) ...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ice Cream (Inspection of Premises) ...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Clean Air Act ...	...	...	...	...	...	31
Noise Abatement Act ...	...	...	...	...	...	34
Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act ...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Infectious Diseases ...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Miscellaneous ...	...	...	...	...	...	324
Total ...						3,710

## **Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963**

The initial documentation of premises affected by this Act was commenced.

## **Clean Air Act, 1956**

The Council are members of the National Society for Clean Air, and resolved to adopt the Model Byelaws that domestic appliances installed in new buildings shall be capable of burning smokeless fuel or otherwise capable of smokeless operation. Smoke Control Areas have not yet been set up.

Noxious odours from industrial works have not been troublesome; the prevailing wind is away from the district. Occasionally when the wind is in the other direction, the typical oil refinery smell from Stanlow is noticed. Contact is maintained with H.M. Alkali Inspectors on these problems.

## **Rats and Mice Destruction**

The Senior Public Health Inspector acts as Rodent Officer; two full time Rodent Operatives are employed.

A limited number of farm contracts have been secured and particular effort is made to obtain those where a farm is in a built up area so that block treatment can be carried out with the adjacent properties where necessary.

Farmers are supplied with Warfarin on charge when requested, and advice is always available. Inspections are carried out under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

Treatment was offered to industrial premises at a charge of cost of labour and materials. Some of these, schools and one cooking depot, receive treatment as required on this basis; 54 preferred to enter into contracts amounting to £518. Dwelling houses receive free treatment unless the infestation is due to lack of hygiene or the unsatisfactory keeping of animals or poultry, in which case a charge is made. Warfarin with an oatmeal and wheatmeal base was used with satisfactory results.

The Council have 17 tips, sewage outfalls and properties which receive treatment as required.

Fluoracetamide poisoning 4 times per year involving one lifting of the manhole covers each poisoning has been adopted with very good results. The total number of visits made including re-inspections was 3,608.



## **Swimming Baths**

There are no Public Swimming Baths in the district.

## **Caravan Sites**

One large site at Frodsham does not yet comply with site Licence condition due to sewerage difficulties, but these were resolved towards the end of the year by agreement with the Council to extend the Council's sewerage system. One site at Appleton is being run down, the land being required for Housing Development; another at Grappenhall has been refused renewal of Planning Permission, owing to an unsatisfactory access. Work is progressing on the Alvanley site in providing amenities. Other sites are well maintained, however residential use of caravans by people with young families present problems to the occupiers made evident by the number of Council House applications from such people.

The others are progressing very slowly owing to difficulties in design and positioning of sewage disposal works.

The number of caravan licences 35 (including 19 single caravans) for a total of 294 residential and 152 recreational caravans.

Number of unauthorised or lapsed sites—9 comprising 47 residential caravans.

The number of fixed type dwellings licenced under the Public Health Act, 1936, Section 269 is 4.

The estimated number of persons occupying these caravans in summer is—recreational 450; residential 700.

## **Insect Pests**

No houses were found to be infested with bed bugs.

Other infestations dealt with were ants, wasps' nests, cockroaches and house flies. Infestations were again low this year as the weather was not favourable.

## **Schools**

Inspections of unsound food were made when requested.

Routine preventative insecticide spraying was carried out at the canteens and kitchens three times: Easter, Whitsuntide and Mid-summer, for the Education Authority.

## **Mortuaries**

A mortuary at Stockton Heath is maintained. It is in good condition and suitably equipped.

# **FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1961**

## **Home Office Form**

1. Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health, including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors.

<i>Premises</i> (1)	<i>Number on Register</i> (2)	<i>Number of</i>		
		<i>Inspections</i> (3)	<i>Written Notices</i> (4)	<i>Occupiers Prosecuted</i> (5)
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .. ..	26	10	—	—
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .. ..	84	16	—	—
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises)	31	12	—	—
Total .. ..	141	38	—	—

Particulars  (1)	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5)	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1) ..	1	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ..	1	1	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7):					
(a) Insufficient .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	3	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work) .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Total .. ..	5	5	—	—	—

## SECTION D—HOUSING

New Houses brought into the Rate Record in 1964 ...	525
Number of new houses erected by the Local Authority and brought into the Rate Record ... ..	133
Number of new houses erected by other bodies and per- sons brought into the Rate Record ... ..	392

				New houses brought into the Rate Record		No. of inhabited houses in
				Total per Parish		Rural District
				Private	Local Auth.	31st Dec. 1964
Alvanley	...	...	...	—	—	115
Antrobus	...	...	...	5	—	246
Appleton	...	...	...	57	58	1718
Aston	...	...	...	—	—	72
Budworth Great	...	...	...	1	—	125
Daresbury	...	...	...	—	—	97
Dutton	...	...	...	2	—	101
Frodsham	...	...	...	117	75	2511
Grappenhall	...	...	...	41	—	2734
Halton	...	...	...	7	—	488
Hatton	...	...	...	1	—	104
Helsby	...	...	...	34	—	1304
Kingsley	...	...	...	12	—	428
Manley	...	...	...	3	—	162
Moore	...	...	...	3	—	223
Norley	...	...	...	5	—	320
Norton	...	...	...	—	—	42
Preston Brook	...	...	...	—	—	151
Stockton Heath	...	...	...	3	—	2484
Stretton	...	...	...	—	—	160
Sutton	...	...	...	4	—	270
Walton	...	...	...	—	—	527
Whitley	...	...	...	—	—	188
Totals ...				392	133	14570



# CLEARANCE AREAS AND INDIVIDUAL UNFIT HOUSES

Year Ending 31st December, 1964

## Part A—Clearance Areas

(Housing Act, 1957/61)

	Houses	No. of displaced persons	Families
Demolished ... ..	34	97	34
Part B — Houses not included in Clearance Areas—Demolition and Closing Orders			
(1) Housing Act, 1957/61			
(a) Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17 and still in force ...	21	34	17
(b) Houses closed in pursuance of an undertaking given by the owners under Section 17 and still in force ...	5	8	5
(c) Parts of buildings closed (Section 18) ... ..	0	0	0
	60	139	56

Repairs	Informal Action	Number of houses
(2) Number of houses rendered fit during the period as a result of informal action under Public Health or Housing Acts (This includes Improvement Grants, where substantial repair was required as a condition of grant). ... ..		
		58
(3) Public Health Act		
Number of houses in which defects remedied		
(a) by owners ... ..		0
(b) by local authority in default ... ..		0
(4) Housing Act, 1957/61		
Houses made fit after service of formal notices, Sections 9, 16 and 24 ... ..		
(a) by owners ... ..		0
(b) by local authority in default ... ..		0

Note: A defective house remedied more than once during the period is included once only.



# ANALYSIS OF UNFIT HOUSES From 1st September, 1954 to 31st December, 1965

Parish	Total First and Second 5 Year Scheme No. of Houses	Demolished	Vacant		Demolition Order or Clearance Order not to re-let but still occupied	Reconditioned or Improvements Commenced
			Closing Order or Agreement not to re-let	Clearance or Demolition Order		
Alvanley ..	6	1	2	—	—	2
Antrobus ..	15	3	1	4	3	5
Appleton ..	21	10	5	1	6	—
Aston ..	14	5	3	4	1	3
Budworth Great ..	11	3	1	1	2	1
Daresbury ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dutton ..	7	2	4	—	1	—
Frodsham ..	178	101	8	9	3	—
Grappenhall ..	48	24	1	5	—	14
Halton ..	7	1	1	—	—	5
Hatton ..	12	3	1	4	2	2
Helsby ..	48	32	2	2	—	1
Kingsley ..	40	8	6	4	6	3
Manley ..	1	—	—	—	—	13
Moore ..	15	3	—	1	—	1
Norley ..	10	4	—	—	2	—
Norton ..	—	—	—	—	—	3
Preston Brook ..	7	3	2	—	—	—
Stockton Heath ..	35	46	4	1	1	1
Stretton ..	12	6	—	—	3	—
Sutton ..	17	11	—	3	3	3
Walton ..	1	—	—	—	—	1
Whitley ..	23	11	—	3	6	3
Totals ..	528	297	41	42	40	62

## SECTION E

### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

#### 1. Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations

Number on the Register:

Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Distributors	...	...	...	...	...	...	57

#### 2. Milk (Special Designation) Regulations

Licences are now issued by Cheshire County Council as the Food and Drugs Authority. Reports on samples of milk taken by the County Health Inspectors are sent regularly to this department.

#### 3. Food Premises in Area:—

Grocer and General Stores	...	...	...	...	105
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	20
Sweets	...	...	...	...	39
Butchers	...	...	...	...	22
Chemists	...	...	...	...	7
Fish and Chips	...	...	...	...	6
Wet Fish	...	...	...	...	6
Cooked Meats	...	...	...	...	1
Cafes and Restaurants	...	...	...	...	21
Licensed premises with Catering	...	...	...	...	57
Confectioners, Bakers	...	...	...	...	14
					<hr/> 298

#### Registered Premises—

Ice Cream					
Sale only	...	...	...	...	117
Manufacture, Hot Mix	...	...	...	...	Nil
Manufacture, Cold Mix	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 118
Preserved Foods					
Sausage and Cooked Meats)	...	...	...	...	28
Meat Pies )	...	...	...	...	
Fish and Chips	...	...	...	...	6
					<hr/> 34

#### Hawkers Registration—Cheshire County Council Act, 1963

Number registered—11.

#### 4. Meat and Other Foods

During the year visits made in respect of Meat and Food Inspection were 88 in shops and 440 in slaughterhouses.

Two slaughterhouses are licensed.

The quantity of food condemned in shops and canteens during the year was:—

Meat at retail shops ... ..	86 lbs.
Cooked Meat and Meat Products ... ..	11 lbs.
Canned Meats and Fish ... ..	77 lbs.
Canned Fruit and Vegetables ... ..	211 lbs.
Canned Milk ... ..	4 pts.
Cheese ... ..	1
Other Foods ... ..	—

Carcases inspected and carcases or parts condemned:—

	<i>Cattle exclud- ing Cows</i>	<i>Cows</i>	<i>Calves</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs</i>	<i>Pigs</i>	<i>Horses</i>
Number killed .. ..	530	473	510	5600	49	—
Number inspected .. ..	530	473	510	5600	49	—
<i>All diseases except Tubercu- losis:</i>						
Wholecarcasescondemned	6	14	73	79	6	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned .. ..	140	276	11	860	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with dis- ease other than Tubercu- losis .. ..	27·55	61·31	16·47	16·77	12·25	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i>						
Wholecarcasescondemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cysticercosis .. ..	1	4	—	—	—	—



## Meat Inspection at Slaughterhouses

100% inspection was maintained: All carcasses passed fit are marked as required by the Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963. Slaughtering increased 39% over last year. This involved increased time being spent at the slaughterhouses much outside normal office hours.

The Council decided to make the full charge, but offered annual contracts of 90% of the previous year's slaughter. Both butchers accepted such contracts.

### Meat Condemned:

The amount of meat and edible offals condemned was:

For tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	0 lb.
For other causes	...	...	...	...	...	20,439 lb.

### Condemned Food Disposal

Meat and other foods are stained with green dye and disposed of by collection by approved Contractors or burying deep in the Council's refuse tips.

## Adulteration etc., Food and Drugs Act, 1955

I am indebted to the Chief Inspector of the Cheshire County Council for the following report of the work carried out by his Department in the Runcorn Rural District under the Food and Drugs Act, during the year 1964.

Samples obtained during the year ended 31st December, 1964:

Name of Sample	Number obtained	No. adulterated or not up to the recognised standard of quality
Apples	1	—
Amytal Tablets 50 Mg.	1	—
Amytal Tablets 32 Mg.	1	—
Avomine Tablets 25 Mg.	1	—
Butter	1	—
Baking Powder	1	—
Bilberries in Syrup—Frozen	1	—
Butterkist	1	—
Battermix	1	—
Beefburgers	1	—
Benylin Expectorant	1	—
Bread	1	1
Bread containing insect	1	1
Cottage Cheese	1	—
Coffee and Chicory Essence	1	—
Carrots	1	—
Cabbage	1	—
Cauliflower	1	—

Coffee—Instant	...	...	...	...	1	—
Cider	...	...	...	...	1	—
Cream	...	...	...	...	1	—
Curry Powder	...	...	...	...	1	—
Fish Cakes	...	...	...	...	1	—
Flour S.R.	...	...	...	...	1	—
Gelatine	...	...	...	...	1	—
Ice Cream	...	...	...	...	1	—
Ice Cream Powder	...	...	...	...	1	—
Jelly—Table	...	...	...	...	1	—
Jam—Blackcurrant	...	...	...	...	1	—
Lard	...	...	...	...	1	—
Lettuce	...	...	...	...	1	—
Luncheon Meat	...	...	...	...	1	—
Milk	...	...	...	...	96	3
Margarine	...	...	...	...	1	—
Mushrooms	...	...	...	...	1	—
Milk bottle—foreign matter	...	...	...	...	1	1
Mustard	...	...	...	...	1	—
Mustard Pickle	...	...	...	...	1	—
Milk Cond. Fc. Us.	...	...	...	...	1	—
Meat Paste	...	...	...	...	1	—
Orange Curd	...	...	...	...	1	—
Plums	...	...	...	...	1	—
Pears	...	...	...	...	1	—
Perry	...	...	...	...	1	—
Potted Beef Paste	...	...	...	...	1	—
Pepper—White	...	...	...	...	1	—
Quinine Tonic Water	...	...	...	...	1	—
Salad Cream	...	...	...	...	1	—
Salmon Spread with butter	...	...	...	...	1	—
Suet	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sweet Chutney Pickle	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sprouts	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sausage—beef	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sausage—pork	...	...	...	...	1	—
Sweets	...	...	...	...	3	—
Sauce	...	...	...	...	1	—
Steakburgers	...	...	...	...	1	—
Stewed Steak—tinned	...	...	...	...	1	—
Saccharin Tablets	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	1	—
Tomato Ketchup	...	...	...	...	1	—
Vinegar—Malt	...	...	...	...	1	—
Whisky	...	...	...	...	4	—
					163	6

### Particulars of Samples not up to Standard

No.	Sample	Result of Analysis	Remarks
1.	Foreign matter in milk bottle	Measured approx. 2in. in diameter, consisted essentially of a mixture of cement and sand.	Dairy fined £12 and £3-5s. costs
2.	Milk	Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1 per cent.	No action
3.	Milk	Sub-standard but genuine milk deficient in solids not fat to the extent of 1.1 per cent.	No action
4.	Bread	Foreign matter—consisted of soiled dough. One of the parts included a piece of string.	Bakers fined £10 and £3-5s. costs
5.	Milk	7.5 per cent deficient in milk fat.	Farmer cautioned
6.	Bread containing insect	The insect probably consisted of the meal worm beetle <i>Tenebrio Malitor</i> —heated to a temperature of at least 145 deg. F.	Prosecution pending

### Particulars of Food Complaints from Private Purchasers— Runcorn R.D.C.

No.	From	Nature	Remarks
1.	School	Foreign matter in school milk	See No. 1 Sample list
2.	Private Purchaser	Foreign matter in bread	See No. 4 on Samples list
3.	Private Purchaser	Mould in Pork Pie	Seller fined £5 and £4-3s. costs
4.	Private Purchaser	Foreign matter in bread	See No. 6 on Samples list



## SECTION F

### DEATHS, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES—

#### STATISTICS

##### 1. Infectious Disease—Case Rates per 1,000 Population 1964

Provisional figures based on Quarterly Returns.

Population 41,860

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Corrected Notifications</i>	<i>Runcorn Rural District Rates per 1,000 Population</i>
Scarlet Fever .. ..	29	0·69
Measles .. ..	282	5·74
Whooping Cough .. ..	19	0·45
Pneumonia .. ..	19	0·45
Poliomyelitis .. ..	0	0·00
Dysentery .. ..	1	0·02
Erysipelas .. ..	3	0·07
Encephalitis .. ..	0	0·00
Puerperal Pyrexia .. ..	1	0·02
Food Poisoning .. ..	0	0·00

##### 2. Infectious and Other Notifiable Diseases 1964—Notifications

Disease	Age Groups of Cases Notified									Total
	Un- der 1	1- 2	3- 4	5- 9	10- 14	15- 24	25- 44	45- 64	65 and over	
Scarlet Fever .. ..	—	4	4	19	1	1	—	—	—	29
Measles .. ..	15	75	76	110	5	—	1	—	—	282
Whooping Cough .. ..	1	3	5	7	1	1	1	—	—	19
Pneumonia .. ..	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	6	9	19
Poliomyelitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Dysentery .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Erysipelas .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	3
Encephalitis .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0
Puerperal Pyrexia .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Food Poisoning .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	0

## TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFICATIONS AND DEATHS

### 3. Particulars of the 7 new cases of tuberculosis in the area during 1964:—

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0- 1 .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1- 4 .. ..	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
4-14 .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15-24 .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
25-34 .. ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
35-44 .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
45-54 .. ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
55-64 .. ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
65 upwards ..	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Totals ..	3	1	2	1	—	—	—	—

### 4. Tuberculosis cases on register. Comparative rates:—

Year	Estimated Population	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total all Forms	No. per 1,000 of Population
		M	F.	M	F.		
1954	36,260	86	68	22	23	199	6.02
1955	36,810	91	63	20	20	194	5.48
1956	37,080	101	69	19	22	211	5.69
1957	37,470	104	79	17	22	222	5.92
1958	37,850	106	80	17	23	226	5.97
1959	38,140	109	77	16	23	225	5.89
1960	38,960	111	86	17	23	226	6.08
1961	39,950	116	51	92	24	249	5.90
1962	40,670	120	56	92	24	292	6.12
1963	41,150	122	59	94	24	299	6.20
1964	41,860	125	60	96	25	306	7.31

## 5. Details of Cancer Deaths over the past 5 years

Year	Site	1-14	15-44	45-64	65-74	75 and over	Rate per 1,000 population	Total all ages	
								M	F
1960	Stomach	—	—	4	2	3	1·43	7	2
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	1	11	4	2		16	2
	Other Sites	—	1	20	9	26		22	34
1961	Stomach	—	—	5	4	4	1·61	7	6
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	—	6	5	1		9	3
	Other Sites	—	5	11	8	15		16	23
1962	Stomach	—	—	3	5	7	2·16	4	11
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	1	7	13	—		18	3
	Other Sites	—	4	15	15	18		21	31
1963	Stomach	—	—	6	2	4	2·20	6	6
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	1	7	5	2		12	3
	Other Sites	—	—	26	16	19		22	39
1964	Stomach	—	—	2	2	3	1·46	6	1
	Lungs, Bronchus	—	—	7	9	1		12	5
	Other Sites	1	1	11	15	9		19	18

# 6. Causes of Death at different Periods of Life during the Year 1964:—

Cause of Death	AGE GROUP AND SEX														Totals of All Age Groups	
	Under 4 Weeks	Under 1 year	1 to 4 years	5 to 14 years	15 to 24 years	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 to 74 years	75 and over		M. F.	M. F.		
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.					
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1		
Syphilitic Disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1		
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ..	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1		
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	6	1		
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	—	—	12	5		
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	6		
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	2		
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ..	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	4	9	6	5	19	18		
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	1	—	1	1		
Diabetes ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—	6		
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ..	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	3	7	12	7	25	35	35		
Coronary Disease, Angina ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	7	23	29	9	17	77	42		
Hypertension with Heart Disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	4	1	6		
Other Heart Disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	5	3	6	20	16	30		
Other Circulatory Disease ..	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	4	2	7	11	12	16		
Pneumonia ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	5	6	9	20	10		
Bronchitis ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	6	2	1	5	20	10		
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	2	2		
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	2		
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
Nephritis and Nephrosis ..	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	3		
Hyperplasia of Prostate ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—		
Congenital Malformations ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1		
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases ..	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	8	9	20		
Motor Vehicle Accidents ..	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	3	2		
All Other Accidents ..	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	1	6		
Suicide ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3		
Total All Causes ..	8	6	—	2	2	—	2	6	17	77	50	70	128	235		



**CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**REPORT**

**FOR THE YEAR 1964**

**By the**

**DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH**

Presented to the  
Runcorn Divisional Health Committee  
16th March, 1965

## MEMBERS OF THE RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE

### *Chairman:*

County Councillor **A. JONES**  
Councillor Dr. R. F. JOHNSON from 17/11/64

### *Deputy Chairman:*

Councillor Dr. R. F. JOHNSON  
Councillor C. HOLDEN from 17/11/64

### *Representatives of Local Health Authority:*

County Alderman G. ASTBURY, Chairman, County Health Committee  
County Alderman F. McBIRNIE, Deputy Chairman County Health  
County Councillor H. MANN Committee  
County Alderman A. E. MOORS  
County Councillor R. F. PAYTON  
County Councillor Miss M. J. PREECE, B.A.

### *Representatives of Runcorn Rural District Council:*

Councillor **A. R. ALLEN**  
" **A. BROMLEY**  
" **H. R. DONE**  
" **Mrs. J. A. GLOVER**  
" **R. HUNNAM**  
" **J. HUNT**  
" **J. W. KIRKHAM**  
" **P. MOUNFIELD**

### *Representatives of Runcorn Urban District Council:*

Councillor **J. BROXTON**  
" **C. DAVIES**  
" **A. INETT**  
" **T. H. LEATHER**  
" **F. R. SHERLIKER**  
" **Mrs. M. B. SHERLOCK**

### *Co-opted Members:*

Dr. E. R. CARTER, County Palatine of Chester, Local Medical Committee  
Miss T. E. DUDLEY, J.P., Cheshire Nursing Aid, Charities Committee  
Mr. C. EVANS, Runcorn Divisional Executive for Education  
Councillor W. H. STUBBS, Chester & District Hospital Management Cmte.  
Mrs. J. C. TURNER, Runcorn & District Old Peoples' Welfare Committee  
Mrs. C. EVANS, H. GOODALL. Mrs. E. A. ROYLE.

### *Officers:*

Clerk to the Committee: T. J. LEWIS  
Divisional Medical Officer: J. L. PATTERSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

**CHESHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL  
RUNCORN DIVISIONAL HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
DIVISIONAL MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1964**

**INTRODUCTION**

To: The Chairman and Members of the  
Runcorn Divisional Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Health Education is a very important job. To keep people healthy and to extend the possibilities of preventive medicine, people will need to be taught how to keep healthy.

The department tackles this task in the following ways:

(1) **Child Welfare Centres**—These centres, which continue to be very well attended, have, as one of their main purposes, the teaching of infant care.

(2) **Ante-Natal Classes**—These classes, held at Stockton Heath, Grappenhall, Frodsham, and Runcorn, teach expectant mothers about childbirth and infant care. At each of them, a physiotherapist teaches them relaxation exercises.

(3) **At Schools**—This is a new venture begun during this year. At Stockton Heath County Secondary School and Helsby County Grammar School for Girls, the Health Visitors, with the active help and encouragement of the Heads of these schools, hold a series of lessons on Health Education and Mothercraft, for the Senior Girls. I hope this work can be extended.

(4) **Merseyside Cancer Education Committee**—This area has been well to the fore in requesting lectures from this organisation, which aims to teach the necessity of early recognition of signs of cancer, thus leading to early and successful treatment.

(5) **Posters**—Regular displays of posters are shown in all Clinic Centres, a particular topic being chosen and changed every six weeks

The demands upon the Domestic Help Service are always increasing. Because of the large amount of work, the Domestic Help Supervisor will require assistance shortly if she is to keep adequate supervision of the home helps. Such supervision is needed to make sure that this expensive Service is used to the best advantage.



There are 35 places in the Day Nursery. 46 children are kept on the register to maintain the average daily attendance at 35. Twenty-six children attend because there is a pressing medical or social need, while another twelve are the children of teachers and nurses. The waiting list is 86. It has been necessary during the year to ask some parents to take their children out of the Nursery so that children whose need is urgent can be admitted. So far as I can tell, I think this will need to be done more frequently in future.

The needs of the elderly continue to occupy a lot of the time and resources of the Department. We are very grateful for the help received from the Old Peoples' Welfare Committee and the "Meals on Wheels" Services.

In October, Nurse G. Roberts, the District Nurse/Midwife for Daresbury, retired after 20 years' service. She served the community well.

It is with deep regret that I record the deaths of two members of the Committee—County Councillor A. Jones during his year as Chairman, and Councillor A. R. Allen.

I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Divisional Health Committee for their support and help to me on all occasions.

The co-operation and assistance of the County Medical Officer and his staff, the Clerk to the Divisional Health Committee, the staff in my Divisional Health office, and the nursing staff in the Division, has been greatly appreciated.

I beg to remain,

Your obedient servant,

J. L. PATTERSON

Divisional Health Office,  
36 Halton Road,  
RUNCORN



## SECTION 22

### CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN

There are eight Child Welfare Clinics in the Division, four of which are held in County owned premises (Runcorn, Frodsham, Grappenhall and Stockton Heath) and four of which are held in premises rented by the County Council for the actual sessions (Helsby, Kingsley, Weston Point and Grange Neighbourhood Unit, Runcorn).

The Infant Welfare Clinics are as follows:—

<b>Frodsham</b>	Clinic Centre The Rock	Alternate Tuesdays at 2-0 p.m.
<b>Grappenhall</b>	Clinic Centre Springfield Avenue	Tuesdays at 2-0 p.m.
<b>Helsby</b>	British Insulated Callender's Cables Works Recreation Room	Alternate Tuesdays at 2-0 p.m.
<b>Kingsley</b>	Hurst Chapel	Second and Fourth Wednesdays at 2-0 p.m.
<b>Runcorn</b>	Clinic Centre Halton Road	Wednesdays 10-0 a.m. and 2-0 p.m.
<b>Grange N.U., Runcorn</b>	St. Andrew's Church Hall, Festival Way	Second and Fourth Thursdays of month at 2-0 p.m.
<b>Stockton Heath</b>	Clinic Centre 65 Whitefield Road	Mondays, 2-0 p.m.
<b>Weston Point</b>	Russell Road Hall	First and Third Thursdays of month at 2-0 p.m.

In addition to Infant Welfare Clinics, Orthopaedic, Ophthalmic, Dental and Minor Ailment Clinics are held at Frodsham, Grappenhall, Runcorn and Stockton Heath Clinics during the month, and at Runcorn and Frodsham, Ante-and Post-Natal clinics are also held each week. A Toddlers Clinic on the second Friday of the month, and Physiotherapy and Speech Clinics are held at the Runcorn, Grappenhall, Stockton Heath and Frodsham Clinics.

Work on the new Clinic Centre on the Grange Neighbourhood Unit, Runcorn, commenced at the end of the year.

The Committee inspected the Welfare Clinics at Frodsham, Grappenhall, Runcorn and Stockton Heath, and the Day Nursery, Runcorn, on the annual inspection of County owned and rented properties, and attention was given to alterations, repairs and replacements required.

## Day Nursery

There is one Day Nursery in the Division, situated in Okell Street, Runcorn.

During the year, the average daily attendance of the Nursery was 35, an increase of 5 on the previous year.

Attendances at the various clinics held at the Clinic Centres and for the Day Nursery are given in the following tables:

A. Mothers' Clinics:				New cases	Total attendances
Ante-Natal	...	...	...	366	2,222
Post-Natal	...	...	...	7	14
Dental—					
Pre-Natal	...	...	...	7	30
Nursing Mothers			...	12	36
Dentures supplied					10

Young Children's Clinics				New Cases	Total attendances
(i) Infant Welfare:					
To 1 year	...	...	...	1,104	9,330
1 to 2 years		...	...	—	1,131
2 to 5 years	...	...	...	—	640
(ii) Specialist:					
Ophthalmic (under 5)	...			51	133
Dental Treatment (under 5)				89	181

## B. (i) Welfare Centres—

				New Cases	Total Attendances		
				0-1	0-1	1-2	2-5
Frodsham	..	..	..	144	882	50	10
Grappenhall	..	..	..	210	2,447	366	72
Helsby	..	..	..	103	917	114	94
Kingsley	..	..	..	28	261	60	95
Runcorn	..	..	..	272	2,373	276	227
Runcorn-Grange N.U.	..			113	529	82	94
Stockton Heath	..	..		152	1,445	135	14
Weston Point	..	..	..	82	476	48	34
Totals	..	..		1,104	9,330	1,131	640

B. (ii) <b>Ophthalmic Clinics</b>				New cases	Total attendances
Frodsham	...	...	...	14	36
Grappenhall	...	...	...	2	7
Runcorn	...	...	...	24	66
Stockton Heath	...	...	...	11	24
Totals				51	133

### Ante-Natal Clinics

### Post-Natal Clinics

<i>Clinic</i>				<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Total Attendances</i>	<i>New Cases</i>	<i>Total Attendances</i>
Frodsham	..	..	..	141	1,334	7	13
Runcorn	..	..	..	225	888	—	1
Totals				366	2,222	7	14

### (iii) **Day Nursery, Runcorn**

				Average No. Attending	Total attendances
Aged 0—2 years	...	...	...	10	2,334
Aged 2—5 years	...	...	...	25	5,925

### **Sale of Branded Welfare Foods**

The sale of proprietary brands of Welfare Foods at Kingsley, Runcorn, Grange N.U. and Weston Point is carried out through my office. During the year the total sales amounted to £1,629-6-7d., an increase of £101 over the previous year.

At Frodsham, Helsby, Grappenhall and Stockton Heath clinics the sale of Welfare Foods is carried out by voluntary societies.



## Distribution of Welfare Foods—M.O.F.

During the year no new distribution points were opened in the Division.

The following are details of the distribution points and commodities sold during the year:

<i>Centre</i>	<i>Commodities</i>				
	<i>N.D. Milk</i>	<i>Half Cream</i>	<i>Cod Liver Oil</i>	<i>A. and D. Capsules</i>	<i>Orange Juice</i>
Runcorn .. ..	3,835	60	253	563	3,149
Appleton .. ..	661	—	19	16	145
Frodsham .. ..	1,633	76	160	176	2,306
Grange N.U., Runcorn .. ..	257	3	35	37	327
Grappenhall .. ..	1,835	—	205	276	2,261
Helsby .. ..	577	10	80	109	1,180
Kingsley .. ..	205	2	27	22	155
Manley .. ..	415	—	14	14	206
Moore .. ..	171	—	—	—	30
Norley .. ..	674	12	22	14	240
Preston Brook .. ..	200	—	7	—	83
Stockton Heath .. ..	1,106	—	117	260	1,384
Sutton Weaver .. ..	257	—	12	15	187
Thelwall .. ..	102	—	8	20	194
Weston .. ..	287	—	—	2	143
Weston Point .. ..	1,209	27	18	60	487
<b>Total Issues.. ..</b>	<b>13,424</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>977</b>	<b>1,584</b>	<b>12,477</b>
Issues to Institutions .. ..	—	—	108	—	36
<b>Totals for Division .. ..</b>	<b>13,424</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>1,085</b>	<b>1,584</b>	<b>12,513</b>

## SECTION 23—MIDWIFERY

Under this Section the Committee are responsible for:

(i) Provision, where necessary, of accommodation for midwives and the maintenance, repair and alterations required for such premises;

(ii) Provision of transport for midwives where necessary in cases of emergency.

Apart from the Midwives residing in 30 Georges Crescent, Grappenhall, and 10 Stanley Villas, Runcorn, all other County Midwives in the Division reside in their own homes.

During the year the Committee inspected the County rented midwives properties and repairs requiring attention were dealt with.

Transport and medical requisites were provided as and when required.



## SECTION 24—HEALTH VISITING

The Committee are also responsible for the housing accommodation of Health Visitors but in this Division all Health Visitors reside in their own homes.

## SECTION 25—HOME NURSING

With the exception of the three district nurses in Runcorn and one district nurse/midwife at Budworth, Frodsham, Helsby and Stretton, who reside in their own homes, the remainder now reside in County owned or rented property.

The Committee inspected all County owned and rented properties in the Division, and action was taken regarding any alterations, repairs or renewals requiring attention.

## SECTION 26—VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION

Every effort was again made during the year to bring to the notice of parents the need to have their children vaccinated and immunised.

During the year, oral poliomyelitis vaccine was offered to all schoolchildren who had started school during the year.

Early in the year Diphtheria/Tetanus immunisation was offered to all children who had commenced school since September 1962, and a total of 1,140 children were immunised.

Arrangements have been made for all schools in the Division to be visited annually so that all children who have started school during the year can be given immunisation.

Regular monthly sessions were held at the Frodsham, Grapenhall, Runcorn and Stockton Heath Clinics for the necessary injections to be given.

The figures set out in the following tables, compiled from record cards received, show the number of vaccinations and immunisations carried out during the year. For comparison purposes the figures for the previous year are also given:

### Vaccination

	<i>Year</i>	<i>Welfare Centres</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>Doctors' Surgery</i>	<i>Total</i>
Primary .. ..	1964	20	—	440	460
	1963	42	—	262	304
Re-Vaccination ..	1964	—	—	110	110
	1963	—	—	81	81

## Immunisation—Primary

	<i>Year</i>	<i>Welfare Centres</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>Doctors' Surgery</i>	<i>Total</i>
Diphtheria .. ..	1964	—	—	—	—
	1963	—	—	—	—
Combined Whooping Cough / Diphtheria and Tetanus ..	1964	406	55	661	1,122
	1963	362	105	588	1,055

## Immunisation—Reinforcing Injections

	<i>Year</i>	<i>Welfare Centres</i>	<i>Schools</i>	<i>Doctors' Surgery</i>	<i>Total</i>
Diphtheria .. ..	1964	—	—	11	11
	1963	—	—	30	30
Combined Whooping Cough / Diphtheria and Tetanus ..	1964	353	1,085	184	1,622
	1963	65	1,385	51	1,501

## Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Towards the end of the year all schools in the Division were visited and all the children whose parents consented were given oral poliomyelitis vaccine. A total of 810 children were vaccinated.

The total number of children in the Division who have been vaccinated against Poliomyelitis either by oral or injected vaccine remains at about 95%.

## SECTION 28

### PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE TUBERCULOSIS

The Health Visitors were informed of all new cases and asked to visit and complete the environmental report sheet, and where the patients had not attended the Chest Clinic for examination, they were advised to do so. Every effort was made to persuade the contacts to attend for examination.

On receipt of the completed report sheet, these were checked to ascertain what help was required.

Details of cases during the period 1st January to 31st December 1964 are as follows:—

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
(a) Total number of cases on register:—					
1st January, 1964 ..	151	118	15	24	308
31st December, 1964 ..	149	112	16	25	302
(b) Removals from register, 1st January to 31st December, 1964:—					
Died .. ..	1	—	—	—	1
Left district .. ..	—	—	—	—	—
Recovered .. ..	8	7	—	—	15
Lost sight of .. ..	—	2	—	—	2
	9	9	—	—	18
(c) No. of notifications received 1st January to 31st December, 1964:—					
New cases .. ..	6	2	1	1	10
Transfers .. ..	1	1	—	—	2
Restored to register ..	—	—	—	—	—
	7	3	1	1	12

**B.C.G. Vaccination**

During the year parents of children in the 13 years age group attending schools in the Division were given the opportunity of having them given B.C.G. vaccination, and I am pleased to report that there was a very good response, approximately 83% agreeing to the vaccination of their children.

The following schools were visited during the period under review:—

- Balfour Road County Secondary Schools Runcorn
- Runcorn The Grange County Secondary School
- St. Edwards R.C. School, Runcorn
- Helsby County Grammar Schools (Boys and Girls)
- Helsby County Secondary School
- Frodsham County Secondary School
- Kingsley County Secondary School
- Stockton Heath County Secondary School
- Grappenhall Hall Special School, Grappenhall
- Belmont Hall College, Gt. Budworth
- Netherton House School, Frodsham



Details of the number of forms issued, tests carried out and B.C.G. given during the year are as follows:—

**Before Vaccination:**

No. of consent forms issued	...	...	...	798
No. of children for whom consent received	...			638
No. Mantoux tested	...	...	...	581
No. positive to Mantoux test	...	...	...	104
No. vaccinated with B.C.G.	...	...	...	477
No. re-vaccinated with B.C.G.	...	...	...	11

**After B.C.G. Vaccination:**

No. positive to follow-up Mantoux (12 months)	435
No. negative                   ,,                   ,,                   (12 months)	11

Following the Adrian report on x-ray hazards, the practice of sending children under 15 to Mass Miniature Radiography Unit was discontinued. Now, instead of x-raying all mantoux positive children, only those children with a strong positive mantoux are x-rayed. These are done at the Chest Clinic by arrangements with Dr. Hughes. The parents of these children are also notified to attend for x-ray in an endeavour to find possible contacts.

**Care of the Aged**

Under the County Council Chiropody Scheme for persons over 65 and handicapped persons, a total of 604 patients were given treatment. During the year a total of 2,935 treatments were given, 1,374 at the Chiropodist's Surgery and 1,561 at the patients' homes.

The "Meals on Wheels" service proved very useful to the elderly who are housebound.

**Loan of Nursing Equipment**

Supplies of Nursing equipment, apparatus, etc., are available for loan to patients from stocks supplied to district nurses in accordance with the scale agreed to by the Cheshire County Council and my Committee. A reserve stock is also kept at my Divisional Office.

The demand for the loan of this equipment again greatly increased during the year.



## **Aids for the Disabled**

In addition to small items of equipment loaned to patients under the medical loan scheme, a number of special items and alterations to premises have been approved by the Committee, and the following is a brief description of these items:—

Handrails supplied to outside of house, to enable patient to use her wheelchair.

Provision of double gates, alterations to the kerb and path to garage, for patient being supplied with invalid car.

## **Handicapped Persons**

Visits have been made during the year to persons on the Handicapped Persons Register, and help arranged where necessary.

Two Handicapped Persons' Clubs were opened during the year, one at Frodsham and the other at Grappenhall, and these have been well attended.

## SECTION 29—DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE

The number of domestic helps employed at 31st December was 82.

The number of cases provided with domestic help during the year increased from 303 to 336, an increase of 33. The total number of hours domestic helps were supplied to cases was 48,710 compared with 43,635 in 1963, an increase of 5,075 hours.

The following table shows the types of case supplied with help during 1963 and 1964:—

Year	Confinement Cases	Tuberculosis Cases	Aged Persons	Cases of other Illness
1963	52	1	217	33
1964	57	1	231	47

At 31st December 1964, there were 211 protracted cases remaining on the register, an increase of 73 on the 1963 total.

2,765 domiciliary visits were made during 1964 by the Domestic Help Supervisor, and 23,841 visits by domestic helps.

During the year the Committee considered all cases supplied with the services of a domestic help.

In addition to the cases tabled above, a further 167 applications were received where help was not provided, either because private arrangements were made, or because the applicant refused to pay the assessed charge for the service.

The table shows an increase of 5 in the number of Maternity cases attended, and a further 15 cases were booked where the applicants were eventually admitted to hospital, or other arrangements made.

As demands on the service continue to increase, constant re-appraisal of need is necessary, as help to current cases has to be cut so that requests for help from deserving applicants may be met. This raises the question of the need for expansion as re-visiting, for the purposes of re-assessment and supervision, is already a major problem.

The case load already on the register, plus the problem of recruitment of suitable help, particularly in the rural areas, tend to restrict the natural growth of the service.



